

REFERENCE TO RELATED DOCUMENTS

This application is a divisional application of U.S. patent

application Serial No. 09/193,499, filed November 16, 1998 and entitled

"INTERCONNECT STRUCTURE AND METHOD EMPLOYING AIR

GAPS BETWEEN METAL LINES AND BETWEEN METAL LAYERS."

In the Claims

Please delete claims 1-24 and 57-60 and renumber the remaining claims accordingly.

REMARKS

This amendment is being submitted to modify the title of the invention, to include the foregoing reference that this application is a divisional application of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/193,499 filed November 16, 1998, and to cancel claims 1-24 and 57-60 thereof. No new matter is being added by this preliminary amendment.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss the above in greater detail, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, at the Examiner's convenience, at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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